

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,

Washington, DC, September 12, 2001.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President of the United States, The White
House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: On behalf of the 21-million strong Sikh Nation and especially on behalf of more than 500,000 Sikh Americans, I would like to express our sadness and our sympathies to the people of the United States for the terrible attack on the United States yesterday and for the loss of life it entails. This is a terrible tragedy and we know that you will take appropriate action. Like all Americans and all decent people everywhere, we condemn this brutal and senseless attack.

The Sikh religion recognizes all humanity as our brothers and we pray for the well-being of all. Our prayers and our sympathies are with the people of the United States at this tragic time. We especially pray for the families of those who have departed. May God bring peace to these departed souls and to their families.

We support you and we pray for the people of America. God bless you and God bless America.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call number 338. I would have voted "yes" on this resolution condemning the terrorist attacks earlier this week.

COMMENDING RESCUE WORKERS
AND VOLUNTEERS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the numerous rescue workers and volunteers around the country in their recovery efforts during this terrible tragedy. These brave and heroic citizens are working around the clock to bring calm and restore peace into our beloved nation. Again I wish to convey my thanks and prayers to these courageous rescue workers, their families, and everyone affected by this horrific chain of events; including Captain Jack Patches, Jr., whose mother resides in Ramsey in Fayette County. A retired Navy captain, he had worked in military intelligence and was at his desk at the Pentagon when the atrocious events of Tuesday occurred. He had a long and distinguished military career, holding command positions during the Persian Gulf War while logging more than 7,000 flight hours as a pilot of a P-3 submarine hunter aircraft. Captain Patches is survived by his wife Janice, his daughter Jennifer, and his son Jeremy.

I ask again, may God bless these rescue workers, may God bless the victims and their families, and may God bless our country.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS
OF THE KATYN FOREST
MASSACRE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of the Katyn Forest Massacre, sixty-two years after the horrible tragedy. Memorial Services will be held on September 16, 2001, at the Katyn Monument site in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Following Nazi Germany's unprovoked attack on Poland on September 1, 1939, Polish troops stood up to a better-equipped and larger army, eventually succumbing to the incredible odds several weeks after Soviet troops viciously attacked from the East. While Polish forces were vastly outnumbered and overextended, they fought vigorously and valiantly on two fronts. Following its defeat, Soviet and Nazi victors immediately placed Poland under their harsh and brutal occupation.

In the Spring of 1940, Soviet-led forces brutally killed and tortured over fifteen thousand Polish men, women, and children. One of the sites of these barbaric and inhumane acts was the Katyn Forest, where four thousand bodies were later discovered.

Today, I honor the victims of the Katyn Forest Massacre. I commend their courage and sacrifice. They stood strong in the face of genocide and appalling brutality.

I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering the victims of the Katyn Forest Massacre, and I ask that we honor their sacrifice for freedom.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF SENATE
AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES REGARDING TERRORIST
ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, an act of terrorism took the lives of thousands of innocent Americans. No American is exempt from the pain and anger that resulted. I know I speak for everybody in the First Congressional District of Tennessee when I send their thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of those who are casualties of this act of terror. Our thoughts and prayers also go to the thousands of individuals who have responded to the scene and are working non-stop in the rescue and recovery efforts.

It is important that we take the appropriate steps to deal with this matter. The government is functioning and providing the necessary services to deal with the aftermath of the events in New York and Washington. Every necessary resource will be made available to assist in the search, rescue, and recovery efforts. In addition, our law enforcement authori-

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ties, intelligence services, and military personnel are moving swiftly in their investigations. A number of positive leads are being pursued, and I am confident that we all know the names of all that are responsible. We have a suspect whose numerous threats are tantamount to an admission. We have the ability to continue to accumulate evidence to prove his guilt.

I applaud the President in his immediate forceful response to this tragedy. He has mobilized our armed forces and directed all appropriate federal agencies to respond to rescue efforts. I also applaud the leadership of a united Congress. The leadership of both parties have communicated the support of the Congress to the President, and he will have the full support of the legislative branch of our government to provide the necessary resources for recovery and rebuilding, as well as the resources that will be needed to provide the appropriate responses to the perpetrators of this crime. We will use these resources to find those responsible and to see that justice is served.

As difficult as it is at this time, we must move forward. We cannot give in to the demands of terrorism. The American resolve is stronger than ever. It is a mistake of terrorists to believe that they will divide us. They have brought us together in ways that many people did not believe could happen. It is a mistake of terrorists to believe that we will cower in fear as a result of their actions. They have only strengthened the willpower, purpose, and determination of all Americans.

One of the most cherished freedoms in this country is the right to disagree. Honorable citizens have the right to voice their disagreements with each other without fear of reprisal. Quite often, Members of Congress find themselves engaging in quarrelsome debate over a variety of issues, which now pale in comparison to the matter that we must deal with in the upcoming days and weeks. Despite these disagreements, the U.S. has always stood for what is right in the world—freedom and democracy. The terrorists believe our ability to disagree is a weakness, and that they can exploit this. They are wrong.

The final casualty numbers will be high—too high to reasonably comprehend. Despite this tragic loss and the crumbling of America's buildings, America's foundation is strong. The history of this great nation proves that when the U.S. is roused—the U.S. fights—and the U.S. wins. We will stand together, outraged and resolute, and we will go to any length to bring these criminals, and those who aid and abet them, to justice. We will have not properly paid our respects to those who have died until their killers are brought to justice.

From this point forward, the rest of the world, and particularly those who harbor hatred and resentment against the United States, will learn that our strength and courage will not tolerate the acts of terrorists. We may never know the specific message these terrorist groups were trying to send to America. I do know that they will ultimately receive a response from America that will be loud and clear. God bless the United States of America.